these steps, the problem of under employment in the rural areas including of agricultural workers is being tackled through a multi dimensional course of action *viz.* improvement of infrastructural facilities, diversification to non-farm activities, skill improvement programme, financial assistance to promote self-employment and optimising the use of land resources. In the State of Maharashtra during the year 1996-97, 251.20 lakh mandays were generated under Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY) (upto January, 1997): 149.53 lakh mandays were generated under Eployment Assurance Scheme (AS) (upto December, 1996) and 10927 youths were trained under Training of Rural youth for Self Employment (TYRYSEM) (upto January, 1997).

Trade Union Nominee for Tripartite Committees and Representation in ILO

1584. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having any criteria in selecting trade union nominees for tripartite committees and representation in ILO;

(b) whether Government have received any complaint from any Central trade union in this regard; and

(c) whether Government would call a meeting of Central trade unions over the matter and finalise a policy through collective discussion?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Indian labour Conference in its 17th Session held on 27-29 July, 1959, adopted the following criterial for the purpose.

> "Organisations claiming representation on the Indian Labour Conference should have all-India Character with a minimum membership of one lakh spread over a number of States and a sizeable membership at least in the majority of industries. The allocation of seats to each organisation should be based on the relative strength of each organisation determined in accordance with the latest available data regarding its membership."

This matter was again considered by the National Labour Conference in its meeting held on 17-18 September, 1982 and the criteria was revised as given below:—

> (i) In the matter of allocation of seats between the employers' organisations and workers' organisations, the principle as laid down in the India Lab our Conference, 1959, would continue to be followed. There would be parity between the representatives of workers and employers.
>
> (ii) Only Trade Union Organisations which have a membership of more than five lakhs spread over 4 States and 4 Industries, would have representation in the Indian Labour Conference.
>
> (iii) Organisations which are not affiliated to any of the Central Trade Union Organisations would not be invited.

Subsequently, the question of giving representation to trade union organisations having more than one lakh but less than 5 lakhs membership was considered. Decisions for inclusion of representatives of some additional organisations were taken from time to time. While representations from some trade union organisations were received before the International Labour Conference, 1996, the Indian Labour Conference in its latest meeting held in October, 1996 did not discuss or recommend any change in the criteria earlier suggested by them for this purpose. There appears no objection in the ILC considering this again in their next meeting, if they so desire.